



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

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Colonel Brendan P. Doherty
Commissioner, Department of Public Safety
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

Chief Anthony J. Silva
Executive Director
Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2010

I. Call to order

Colonel Stephen M. McCartney called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at **10:15 a.m.** on **November 18, 2010** in **RIMPA-Lincoln**. Colonel asked for a minute before Roll Call is taken to introduce and welcome a new POST member, Chief Edward Mello of the Westerly Police Department, who was appointed by the Governor to replace Chief George Kelley due to his recent retirement.

II. Roll call

Colonel McCartney asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Stephen M. McCartney, Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, Mr. Robert Driscoll, and Ms. Lisa Holley, Esq., representing Colonel Brendan Doherty. Also present were Chief Anthony J. Silva, Mr. Richard B. Woolley, Esq., Captain David Ricciarelli, Captain David DelBonis, Donna Lavallee, Sara Sticht and Ms. Maura Gazzo of the R.I.S.P.

III. Approval of the minutes

Colonel McCartney asked for approval of the minutes from the last meeting dated August 26, 2010. Mr. Driscoll noted for the record that he was, in fact, present for the August 26, 2010 meeting and would like it reflected in the minutes. Chief Pesare made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. After no further discussion and all in favor (5-0), the motion carries and minutes were accepted.

IV. Discussion of Budget issues on behalf of Colonel Brendan Doherty

Chief Silva stated that he met with Colonel Doherty and the Colonel asked him to brief the POST members on the current budget situation. All DPS departments' budgets are being reduced by 15%. The Colonel noted that this is a difficult task but confirmed that he did not believe that the 15% cut would affect RIMPA. If it did, it would result in the loss of a position. He realizes we have already lost an FTE (Mr. Glen Shibley), and overtime was also eliminated, and there is nothing left to cut.

V. Update on Current 115th Session, Recruit Class/Academy Schedule

Captain David DelBonis stated that the Recruits are in Week 14 and scheduled to graduate on December 17th. He stated this class is both physically and mentally above the board. They are a remarkable class...no injuries or incidents. Also, as everyone is aware, beginning with the January class, we are now going to a 20-week program. The schedule is pretty much complete and included in today's packets for everyone's review. This schedule includes all of the new classes of instruction. As a result of the completion of the Job Task Analysis, classes were identified that needed to be included in the schedule. Also, new with this incoming class, the first two weeks of classes will be held at Camp Fogarty in East Greenwich. This will enable them to have more of a quasi-military experience and more Drill & Ceremony before they head back to CCRI in the 3rd week.

VI. Update on Continuing Education

Captain David Ricciarelli stated that we have six programs scheduled for December and a new In-Service calendar will go out for the January-June period. Chief Pesare complimented the staff for the diversity of training that he constantly sees come across his desk from our Academy.

VII. Report from Col. Richard Sullivan, Highway Safety Training Coordinator

Chief Silva stated that Col. Sullivan is in New Orleans at a Law Enforcement Liaison Conference with fellow LEL's.

VIII. Report from Sara Sticht, Curriculum Assessment Coordinator

Sara handed out binders for review. As of this date, 21 curriculums are completed and 7 are currently being worked on.

Lisa Holley asked what happens if an instructor leaves? Capt Ricciarelli stated that the new instructor can create a new lesson plan but the learning objectives must be met. Chief Silva stated that in March, the POST will approve all lesson plans and once done, no changes can be made to them. A new instructor may change the delivery style or if there are changes to the law but basically, the lesson plan stays intact because the POST will approve the entire curriculum including powerpoints, handouts, etc.

The Director also stated for the record that we are about to contract with a company, under the BJA Grant, which will develop a database for us. This database will not only track our in-service trainings, but also will be created for our instructors and curriculum. Captain DelBonis stated that we now have in place "team teaching" where we are grooming co-instructors in just about all our major courses of instruction.

IX. Appointments of RIMPA Adjunct Instructors

Chief Silva stated there are a few additions (applications and resumes included in the packet) of instructors who are asking for POST certification. Mr. Driscoll made a motion to accept and certify these instructors and Chief Pesare seconded the motion. After no further discussion and all in favor (5-0), the motion passes.

X. Discussion of CCRI partnership with Police Academy

Chief Silva stated that he believes he is ready to sit down with our legal counsel and articulate the agreement with CCRI. In his conversations with Colonel Doherty, he stated his concern tuition affordability. Chief Silva stated that issue does not exist because a they will still be afforded scholarships, etc. to attend. He asked if he works on the language and completes that part by mid-December, is there anything else the POST needs to do in order to draft legislature. Lisa Holley stated once the agreement was articulated, it would only take her about an hour to draft the legislature. However, this is a new Governor and Administration and she doesn't even know if there would be support for this. She thinks it would be unrealistic to think it would be ready to go by January 1st. She will put it on the DPS legislature to the incoming Governor. Colonel McCartney asked if the POST should approve this agreement and Lisa stated they more or less did that already...just need to iron out the details now. Richard Woolley brought up that according to the legislature as it stands now, there must be seating for the 39 cities and towns who want to send recruits. Chief Silva stated that he didn't see that as being an issue, we are only talking about maybe two seats/year to CCRI. He then asked Lisa Holley if this will be doable for the Jan-June legislation and Lisa responded that it is all how it's presented and that is must be articulated and ready for her to present. Chief Silva stated that CCRI has already put together an Advisory Board, of which he is a member of, but he doesn't want to start meetings with them unless we know that the Governor is in favor of this. Chief Mello asked if the cities and town would be guaranteed seats. Ms. Holley stated that they should get first priority and that should be stated in the agreement. She then asked if anyone brought this to the Police Chiefs as a body and what they thought of it. Colonel McCartney spoke personally that he is in favor and it seems to be a pretty reasonable, cost-saving program for all. Chief Pesare stated he agrees 100%. Right now because of all the department shortages and budget issues, more and more police departments are hiring retired officers to save on sending them for training. It was agreed that we would continue to move forward on the agreement and consult with our legal counsel.

XI: Old Business:

Chief Silva stated that just as an FYI, under the BJA Grant, he can hire a part-time Co-ordinator position. He has been working with Elaine Richards at DPS to find a fair process to hire a part-time co-ordinator . Upon their last discussion, they agreed to hire someone as a vendor under the grant. It has been past-practice to hire our law enforcement instructors as vendors.

XII: New Business:

Maura Gazzero of RISP stated that the RIMPA Rules and Regulations are now complete and have been posted to the public—they are currently in a 30-day public comment period.

A Public Hearing will be held on December 16, 2010 at 4:30pm in the Colonel Stone Conference Room at Rhode Island State Police Headquarters. She will then consider all comments, wait another 30 days, then file with the Secretary of State Office. Members of our staff should be present for the Public Hearing.

XIII: Adjournment:

Chief Pesare made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Donna M. Lavalley, Administrative Assistant